



The Office of the Governor

*Executive Department
State of Idaho*

*State Capitol
Boise*

Proclamation

WHEREAS, children are our greatest resource and the brightest hope for the future of our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, the family is the cornerstone of our society and the unit by which we transmit the values and traditions of the past, and is the primary agent which prepares our children to become productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, every child, regardless of physical, medical or emotional disabilities, age or race, has the right to a permanent, caring family and the opportunity to grow in a secure environment; and

WHEREAS, adoption is a loving and viable way of building a family and providing stability for children who need families; and

WHEREAS, birth parents, who make the difficult decision to place their children with adoptive families, and adoptive parents, who open their hearts and homes to children, all deserve community support and respect; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Awareness Month is a time for all Americans to reflect on the dreams of those children who wait for a permanent family, and those families who desire the joys and responsibilities of parenthood; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 Idahoans adoption professionals made record increases in finding adoptive families for waiting children, but our work is not done;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim November 2003, to be

ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this seventeenth day of October in the year of our Lord two-thousand and three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-eighth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred fourteenth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dirk Kempthorne", is written over a horizontal line.

**DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ben Ysursa", is written over a horizontal line.

**BEN YSURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE**